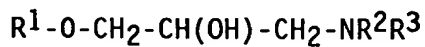


IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Third Amendment) A sustained release ophthalmic pharmaceutical composition in the form of an aqueous gel, a pourable aqueous dispersion, or anhydrous salt, for controlling and lowering intraocular pressure comprising:

a therapeutically effective amount of [a beta blocker of the formula:

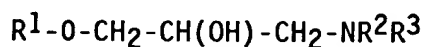


wherein R^1 is a substituted or unsubstituted cyclic or aliphatic moiety, and R^2 and R^3 are independently selected from H and substituted and unsubstituted alkyl] betaxolol;

an amount of an anionic mucomimetic polymer having carboxylic acid functional groups which comprise from 2 to 7 carbon atoms per functional group and a molecular weight of from 50,000 to 6 million such that the composition in the form of an aqueous gel or pourable aqueous dispersion has a viscosity of about 1 to about 20,000 cps.; and [a particulate cation exchange resin] sodium poly(styrene-divinylbenzene) sulfonic acid at a concentration of from about 0.05% to 10.0% by weight, the composition having a pH of from about 3.0 to 8.5.

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7. (Third Amendment) A method of treatment for controlling and lowering intraocular pressure which comprises administering topically to the affected eye a pharmaceutical composition which includes:

a therapeutically effective amount of [a beta blocker of the formula:



wherein R^1 is a substituted or unsubstituted cyclic or aliphatic moiety, and R^2 and R^3 are independently selected from H and substituted and unsubstituted alkyl] betaxolol;

an amount of an anionic mucomimetic polymer having carboxylic acid functional groups which comprise from 2 to 7 carbon atoms per functional group and a molecular weight of from 50,000 to 6 million such that the composition in the form of an aqueous gel or pourable aqueous dispersion has a viscosity of about 1 to about 20,000 cps.; and [a particulate cation exchange resin] sodium poly(styrene-divinyl-benzene) sulfonic acid at a concentration of from about 0.05% to 10.0% by weight, the composition having a pH of from about 3.0 to 8.5.

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13. (~~Once Amended~~) A method according to claim 7 wherein the [beta-blocker] betaxolol is present at a concentration of from about 0.01 to 4.0 wt.%.
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~~16.~~ (Once Amended) A method according to claim 7 wherein the [beta-blocker] betaxolol is present at a concentration of about 0.25 wt.%, the anionic mucomimetic polymer is carbomer present at a concentration of about 0.20 wt.%, and the [cation exchange resin is] sodium poly(styrene-divinylbenzene) sulfonic acid is present at a concentration of about 0.25 wt.%.

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~~17.~~ (Once Amended) A composition according to claim 1 wherein the [beta-blocker] betaxolol is present at a concentration of from about 0.01 to 4.0 wt.%.

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~~20.~~ (Once Amended) A composition according to claim 1 wherein the [beta-blocker] betaxolol is present at a concentration of about 0.25 wt.%, the anionic mucomimetic polymer is carbomer present at a concentration of about 0.20 wt.%, and the [cation exchange resin is] sodium poly(styrene-divinylbenzene) sulfonic acid is present at a concentration of about 0.25 wt.%.

Please cancel Claims 4-6, 9-12, 15, 19, 21 and 22 without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to file continuing applications directed to the subject matter of the cancelled claims.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 13, 14, 16-18 and 20 are pending.

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